

Let's Talk: Assisted Living

Department for Aging
and Independent Living

May 29, 2009
Volume 1, Issue 5

Special Points of Interest:

- Temporary condition only relates to mobility.
- FNA shall reflect client's ongoing ability.
- Staff should not assist with mobility.
- Submit application by July 1, 2009.

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Temporary Conditions

A temporary health condition relates only to the client's mobility regardless of whether this is a condition for which they are expected to recover or an end of life situation. Clients in an assisted living community are expected to be able to participate to some degree with their own activities of daily living and

instrumental activities of daily living. The use of an outside health service, care giver or provider does not make a client appropriate for assisted living except for the temporary condition of mobility. A client who is under a temporary condition must be able to assist to some degree in their own bathing, dressing,

grooming, eating, transferring, toileting and self administration of medication. While we are sympathetic to persons wanting to remain in their own home, KRS 194A.711 is clear that the temporary health condition is only related to mobility even when Hospice or other end of life services are in place.

The Functional Needs Assessment

The functional needs assessment (FNA) is a requirement under the lease agreement and according to KRS 194A.713 it pertains to the client's ability to perform ADL's and IADL's. 910 KAR 1:240 requires the FNA to reflect the client's ongoing ability to perform ADL's and IADL's. This means that the FNA is completed at the time the lease agreement is

completed and additionally as a client's needs change. Clients in special units must have a new FNA as needed and at least annually. The FNA is the community's best tool for determining service needs and keeping check on the client's level of functioning. This tool is your best documentation for justification of services and in determining

when a client no longer meets the criteria for living in an assisted-living. It is advisable that the assisted-living community have an instruction page or manual on how to complete the FNA. Categories and sub categories can have a different meaning to each person responsible for completing the FNA. This is especially true when a total assistance category is utilized.

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Ambulatory or Mobile Non-Ambulatory

A client in an assisted living (ALC) shall be ambulatory or mobile non-ambulatory, unless due to a temporary health condition for which health services are being provided under direct contract or arrangement between the client and an outside agent, professional, provider, or other individual designated by the client if permitted by the policies of the

ALC. Staff of the ALC should not regularly provide assistance with ambulation or mobility. This practice diminishes the client's independence and hastens decline as well as leads to clients no longer being mobile non-ambulatory because they have become dependent on others to do this task. The client must be able to move

about independently or through an outside arrangement if they were under a temporary condition. When a client is under a temporary condition the ALC must have documentation from a licensed health care professional. If the condition becomes permanent they no longer meet the criteria for assisted living.

Plan of Correction

An acceptable plan of correction must identify three elements 1) How the issue of non-compliance has been corrected 2) What measures have been put into place to prevent future non-compliance and 3) The date the plan of correction will be implemented. It is

important that if the plan of correction has been determined by the community as ineffective that the director contact the assigned DAIL staff immediately so arrangements can be made to submit an amended plan of correction. Those

communities that don't notify DAIL of the need to amend the plan or that wait until the date it is to be implemented before they contact DAIL may be held to the original plan and date of implementation to be determined on a case by case basis. It is always best to keep us informed.

Application for Certification

Remember your application and full certification fee (with check made payable to Kentucky State Treasurer) is due to the department by July 1, 2009. The fees are not pro-rated this year so make sure your check is

made out for \$20 per unit a minimum of \$300 and a maximum of \$1600. If you have submitted an application for additional units at a pro-rated fee (paid up to June 30th) that are not yet certified you will need to include them in

your application and payment for July 1st. If you have any questions please call Phyllis Sosa.